NOTE XXII.

ON SEVEN NEW SPECIES OF BIRDS IN THE LEYDEN MUSEUM FROM THE ISLANDS OF WETTER, KISSER, LETTI AND NEW-GUINEA

BY

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1. *Sphecotheres hypoleucus*, n. sp.

Adult male (Cat. [1]) n°. 1). Head, nape and earcoverts black; remaining upper parts olive-green, brighter and more yellowish green on the rump and upper tailcoverts; wings black; the primaries and their coverts on the outer web narrowly margined with pale greenish olive, the secondaries broadly with brighter yellowish green; the two central tailfeathers washed with dull olive-green, the remainder black, margined on the outer web with olive-green, wider towards the base, almost imperceptibly on the two outermost ones; the four outermost ones on each side with white tips, confined almost to the inner web; whole under surface, as also the cheeks, sides of neck and under wingcoverts white with a faint yellowish hue; wings and tail from below ashy grey. Bill and feet black; a narrow ring round the eye and the space between eye and gape naked and flesh-coloured (in the living bird »reddish-yellow": Schädler). »Irides dark brown" (Schädler).

Adult female (Cat. n°. 2). General colour above olive-brown, the head mottled with darker brown shaftstripes,

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1) MS. Catalogue in preparation.

lower back and rump olive-green, more vivid on the upper tailcoverts; wings blackish brown; primaries on the outer web very narrowly margined with pale yellowish olive, secondaries and all the coverts more distinctly margined externally with greenish yellow-olive; tail blackish brown, the two central tailfeathers washed with olive-green, the remainder only with a faint greenish margin on the outer web; ear-coverts, chin and throat dull brown, with faint whitish margins, most distinct on the chin, remaining under parts whitish, with dark shaftstripes, broadest on breast and flanks, very narrow on the middle of vent and under tail-coverts; under wingcoverts whitish, washed with pale isabelline. — Bill and feet black, the same as a narrow ring round the eye and the space between the eye and gape (in the living bird »dark green": Schädler).

Another old female (Cat. n°. 3) agrees with the foregoing specimen, but the margins of the wings and their coverts are lighter, more yellowish white.

Al.	caud.	culm.	tars.	
mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.	
130	96	19	24	♂ (Cat. n°. 1).
130—132	98	17—20	24	♀ (Cat. n°. 2 a. 3).

A very distinct species, easily recognizable by the uniform white undersurface in the male; the female resembles that of *Sph. viridis* Vieill. (*timoriensis* Schl.) from Timor, but has its rump and upper tailcoverts, as well as the two central tailfeathers, distinct olive-green; the ground-colour of the under parts is whitish (not yellowish as in *viridis*).

The three above described specimens are collected by Mr. K. Schädler on the Island of Wetter (north of Timor) in February and March 1898.

2. *Stigmatops notabilis*, n. sp.

Adult male (Cat. n°. 1). Head above dull black; the feathers on the occiput margined with brownish at the base, giving the appearance of indistinct longitudinal stripes, which are more distinct on the feathers of the nape and hind neck; back and shoulders dark olive-yellow, with broad blackish shaftstripes, therefore on an olive-yellow ground streaked with blackish; rump and upper tailcoverts uniform olive-yellow; the lores are covered with short smoky grey feathers; round the eye a distinct naked ring, extending somewhat behind the eye; above this naked space the feathers are very short and tipped whitish, forming a distinct whitish postocular stripe; feathers on the ear-region, below the naked space, black, with faint silvery grey tips, but without forming a marked earpatch; sides of head, from the gape, including fore part of sides of neck and throat, silky white, the chin washed with pale greyish; the white of the throat is surrounded by a broad black collar, beginning on each side of the neck; the black feathers of this collar are margined with yellowish white at the base, giving an indistinct striped appearence; all the remainder underparts, including the axillaries, dark yellow with blackish shaftstripes, very distinct on the breast and sides of breast and vent, very faint on the vent and under tailcoverts; quills black, margined on the outer web with dark olive-yellow, on the basal half of the innerweb pale isabelline-whitish, the same colour as the lower wingcoverts; upper wingcoverts dull blackish, very faintly margined with olive-yellow; bent of wing yellow; tail ? (being helas missing!). Bill and feet black, as the naked space round the eye. »Irides light brown" (Schädler).

Al.	caud.	culm.	tars.
168 mm.	? mm.	16 mm.	20 mm.

Hab. Island of Wetter (4 February 1898: Schädler).

The single specimen was preserved out of alcohol, but has kept the colours remarkably well (only the white of the throat has a certain dirty hue).

3. *Gerygone wetterensis*, n. sp.

Male (Cat. n°. 1). All the upper parts dull olive-brown; lower back, rump and upper tailcoverts changing into brownish rufescent; wings dark brown, with a narrow greenish brown margin on the outer web; wingcoverts brown like the back; a narrow feathered ring round the eye pale yellowish; a pale yellowish white loral stripe; earcoverts brownish; fore-cheeks washed with yellowish, sides of neck, chin and throat white, the same as the under wing- and tailcoverts, the remaining under parts faintly washed with yellowish, sides of breast and flanks distinct yellowish isabelline; tailfeathers brownish black (except the two central ones), white at the tip of the inner web, the outer web tipped with smoky brown, extending a little on the inner web; the white end-spot of the outermost tailfeather runs also, but indistinctly, on the outer web; on the remaining tailfeathers the white apical spots diminish in extension and get smaller towards the innermost feathers. Bill and feet brownish black. »Irides whitish grey" (Schädler).

Another male (Cat. n°. 2) agrees in every respect, but the sides of the breast and flanks are only very faintly washed yellowish.

Al.	caud.	culm.	tars.	
48 mm.	39 mm.	10 mm.	20 mm.	N°. 1.
50 »	40 »	9 »	—	» 2.

Hab. Island of Wetter (collected by Mr. K. Schädler: February and March 1898).

Judging from the narrow yellowish eye-ring both specimens may be perhaps not fully adult ones.

The pattern of the tailfeathers in this species is almost the same as in *G. pallida* Temm., but lacks the rufescent colour on the basal half, moreover *G. wetterensis* is above dull olive-brown, the under parts are white with a distinct yellowish isabelline wash on the sides; the bill is also considerably longer and the wings are shorter than in *G. pallida*.

4. *Gerygone kisserensis*, n. sp.

Adult male (Cat. n°. 1). General colour above olive-brown, upper tailcoverts more into rusty brown, head above more dull brown; lores and sides of head more brownish grey, under surface white, sides of breast and flanks rusty brown; tailfeathers brownish black, lighter towards the base; all the feathers (excepting the two central ones) broadly tipped with a lighter shade of smoky brown; the four outermost on the inner web with a pale whitish marginal spot not reaching to the shaft. Bill and feet black. „Irides light red" (Schädler).

Al.	caud.	culm.	rict.	tars.	
mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.	
53	39	11	15	21	*kisserensis* (type).
50	34	11	15	20	*Everetti* (1 spec.).
50—53	38—39	9	12	17—18	*inornata* (4 spec.).

Mr. K. Schädler has sent only the above described specimen from the small island of Kisser (opposite to the extreme north-east point of Timor) and gives the following short, but interesting notice: »the best singing bird I met with in this island".

After a careful comparison the specimen proves to belong to a new species, nearly allied to *G. inornata* Wall. and *G. Everetti* Hartert, but easily to be distinguished by the markings of the tailfeathers, which show only a pale whitish marginal spot before the end of the inner web (faintest on the outermost feather) and no broad distinct white end (tipped with smoky) and running over both webs on the two outermost as in the above mentioned species. The bill is as large as in *G. Everetti*, and the legs are even somewhat longer than in this species.

The Leyden Museum possesses 4 specimens of *G. inornata* Wall. (Proc. Z. S. London, 1863, p. 490), collected in 1829 by Dr. Salomon Müller in Timor and distinguished already as a new species s. n. „*Sylvia* (s. *Acanthiza*) *tyrannuloides* Müll." A *Gerygone* collected by Dr. Salomon

Müller in Timor in 1829 and marked by Temminck's handwriting „*Acanthiza brachyoptera* n. spec.", has been described lately by Mr. Hartert on specimens collected by Mr. Everett in Savu and Timor (*G. everetti* Hart. Nov. Zool. 1897, p. 268).

5. *Gerygone pallida* (Temm.).

»*Acanthiza pallida*" Temm. n. sp. in Mus. Lugd. Bat.

Male (Cat. n°. 1). All the upper parts and the wings pale sandy brown; wings on the inner web dark brown; a narrow feathered ring round the eyes pale yellowish; lores and sides of head brownish, lighter than the head above; all the underparts whitish; under wingcoverts white; tailfeathers sandy brown (the same colour as above) with a broad blackish subterminal crossband over both webs before the broad smoky brown apical end and here with a large white spot on the inner web, except on the the two central tailfeathers, which are uniform sandy brown with an indication of a dark crossband before the end. Bill and feet dark hornish brown.

Al.	caud.	culm.	tars.
54 mm.	38 mm.	8 mm.	18 mm.

Hab. New Guinea: Lobo-Bay (on the Westcoast).

The single specimen has been collected by the late Dr. Salomon Müller already in 1828 and belongs most probably still at present to one of the many new but neglected discoveries of this indefatigable naturalist.

The specimen may be perhaps not quite an old bird (as shown by the narrow yellowish eye-ring) but the peculiar coloration of the tailfeathers is alone sufficient to distinguish it as a new species; moreover the uniform whitish under surface, with no marked darker sides and flanks, is rather peculiar.

The nearly allied *G. inornata* Wall. is easily distinguished by the dark brown plumage of the upper parts and has a differently coloured tail: *G. ruficollis* Salvad. has the sides of head and neck, the foreneck and throat rufescent, and in *G. bimaculata* (most nearly allied to the former species) the white apical spot on the outermost tailfeathers runs over both webs.

6. *Pseudogerygone virescens* (S. Müll.).

Tyrannulus virescens S. Müll. n. sp. in Mus. Lugd. Bat.
Sylvia virescens S. Müll. Blyth, Ibis, 1870, p. 169 (descr.).
Sylvia virescens S. Müll. = *Pseudogerygone conspicillata* (Gray), Sharpe, Cat. B. Br. M. IV, 1879, p. 221. — Salvad. Orn. Pap. II (1881), p. 100.

Adult female (Cat. n°. 1: Type of S. Müller).

All the upper parts brownish olive-green, longest upper tailcoverts rusty brown, the outer margins of the uniform dark brown tailfeathers of the same colour, the tail therefore appears rusty brown; wings dark brown, with brownish olive-green outer margins (no lighter bar or crossband on the wing); a very indistinct pale line on the lores and temporal region; chin and throat white, all the remaining under surface pale yellowish, more distinct on the lower sides, vent and under tailcoverts, bent of wing and axillaries yellowish. Bill pale hornish brown; feet hornish white.

Al.	caud.	culm.	tars.
53 mm.	37 mm.	10 mm.	16 mm.

Hab. New Guinea: Lobo-Bay (on the Westcoast), collected by Dr. Salomon Müller in 1828 (later determined „*Gerygone conspicillata* (G. R. Gray)".

Blyth's short diagnosis is thoroughly insufficient to recognize this species, which has been placed (apparently first by Dr. Sharpe) simply as synonymous with the totally different *Gerygone conspicillata* Gray [1]). In fact *Ps. virescens* belongs to a quite different groupe (distinguished by the unicolorous tailfeathers) and is nearest allied to *Ps. notata* Salvad., from which it differs by the want of one (or two) light crossband on the wings; moreover *Ps. notata* has no indication of a light temporal stripe and is underneath distinct pale yellowish.

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[1]) One specimen of this species was collected on the Westcoast of New Guinea (Lobo-Bay) already in 1828 by Dr. S. Müller and distinguished by Temminck as new s. n. „*Muscicapa decolorata*". — Synonymous is „*Zosterops*

7. *Zosterops lettiensis*, n. sp.

Very similar to *Z. Grayi* Wall. (from Key and Aru) but above not so bright olive-yellow, but more greenish yellow, rump and upper tailcoverts like the back (not bright yellow as in *Z. Grayi*); yellow frontal margin not so distinct as in *Z. Grayi*, confined to a yellow loral stripe; the yellow on chin, throat and lower tailcoverts not so dark and bright as in *Z. Grayi*; remaining under parts nearly the same as in *Z. Grayi*, but the flanks darker washed with isabelline; a faint yellowish longitudinal stripe along the centre of the abdomen. Smaller than *Z. Grayi*.

Al. mm.	caud. mm.	culm. mm.	
60	42	9	
62—64	43—45	11—12	*Z. Grayi* (3 specim.).

Based upon a single specimen (s. n. *Z. citrinella*) collected by Baron von Rosenberg (May 1866) on the Island of Letti.

Leyden Museum, 1 June 1898.

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fusca Bernst. J. f. Orn. 1864, p. 406" of which we possess type-specimens from Waigiu, Salawati and New Guinea (Sorong). — Sharpe and Salvadori enumerate *Z. fusca* Bernst. as a doubtful species (Cat. Br. M. IX, p. 146. — Orn. Pap. II, p. 363).